

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 139**

LCO No. 3305

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSIONER
OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO ESTABLISH A
TROUT STAMP, AMENDING CERTAIN HUNTING AND FISHING FEES
FOR RESIDENTS LESS THAN EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND
ERECTING A PHEASANT STOCKING ACCOUNT AND PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-48a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

3 (a) The commissioner may establish, by regulations adopted in
4 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, standards for the
5 management of salmon, trout, migratory game birds in accordance
6 with section 26-92, pheasant and turkey which shall include provision
7 for the issuance of permits, tags or stamps. The commissioner may
8 charge a fee for a permit, tag or stamp as follows: Not more than
9 nineteen dollars for turkey; not more than thirteen dollars for
10 migratory game birds; not more than twenty-eight dollars for
11 pheasant, not more than ten dollars for trout and not more than
12 twenty-eight dollars for salmon. No person shall be issued a permit,
13 tag or stamp for migratory birds, pheasant or turkey without first
14 obtaining a license to hunt and no person shall be issued a permit, tag
15 or stamp for salmon or trout without first obtaining a license to fish.
16 Notwithstanding any provision of any regulation to the contrary, the

17 commissioner may charge a fee of nineteen dollars for the issuance of a
18 permit to hunt wild turkey on state-owned or private land during the
19 fall season.

20 (b) Such permits, tags or stamps shall be issued to qualified
21 applicants by any town clerk. Application for such permits, tags or
22 stamps shall be on such form and require of the applicant such
23 information as the commissioner may prescribe. The commissioner
24 may adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54
25 authorizing a town clerk to retain part of any fee paid for a permit, tag
26 or stamp issued by such town clerk pursuant to this section, provided
27 the amount retained shall not be less than fifty cents.

28 (c) There is established an account to be known as the "pheasant
29 stocking account", which shall be a separate, nonlapsing account
30 within the General Fund. The funds in such account shall be used for
31 the purpose of conducting a pheasant stocking program that includes
32 the purchase and stocking of pheasants. The following funds shall be
33 deposited in such account: (1) All funds collected pursuant to
34 subsection (a) of this section for pheasant, and (2) any voluntary
35 donation made in furtherance of the pheasant stocking program. The
36 pheasant stocking program described in this subsection shall be
37 conducted within the available resources of such account.

38 Sec. 2. Section 26-28 of the general statutes is repealed and the
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2016*):

40 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) to (f), inclusive, of this
41 section, the fees for firearms hunting, archery hunting, trapping and
42 sport fishing licenses or for the combination thereof shall be as follows:
43 (1) Resident firearms hunting license, nineteen dollars; (2) resident
44 fishing license, twenty-eight dollars; (3) resident marine waters fishing
45 license, ten dollars; (4) one-day resident marine waters fishing license,
46 five dollars; (5) resident all-waters fishing license, thirty-two dollars;
47 (6) resident combination license to fish in inland waters and firearms
48 hunt, thirty-eight dollars; (7) resident combination license to fish in
49 marine waters and firearms hunt, twenty-five dollars; (8) resident

50 combination license to fish in all waters and firearms hunt, forty
51 dollars; (9) resident combination license to fish in all waters and bow
52 and arrow permit to hunt deer and small game issued pursuant to
53 section 26-86c, sixty-five dollars; (10) resident firearms super sport
54 license to fish in all waters and firearms hunt, firearms private land
55 shotgun or rifle deer permit issued pursuant to section 26-86a, and
56 permit to hunt wild turkey during the spring season on private land
57 issued pursuant to section 26-48a, as amended by this act, seventy
58 dollars; (11) resident archery super sport license to fish in all waters,
59 bow and arrow permit to hunt deer and small game issued pursuant to
60 section 26-86c and permit to hunt wild turkey during the spring season
61 on private land issued pursuant to section 26-48a, as amended by this
62 act, eighty-two dollars; (12) resident firearms super sport license to fish
63 in all waters and firearms hunt, firearms private land shotgun or rifle
64 deer permit, muzzleloader private land deer permit, pursuant to
65 section 26-86 and private land permit to hunt wild turkey during
66 spring season pursuant to section 26-48a, as amended by this act,
67 eighty-four dollars; (13) resident firearms super sport license to fish in
68 all waters and firearms hunt, migratory bird conservation stamp, and
69 migratory bird harvest permit (HIP), fifty dollars; (14) resident
70 trapping license, thirty-four dollars; (15) resident junior trapping
71 license for persons under sixteen years of age, eleven dollars; (16)
72 junior firearms hunting license, eleven dollars; (17) nonresident
73 firearms hunting license, ninety-one dollars; (18) nonresident inland
74 waters fishing license, fifty-five dollars; (19) nonresident inland waters
75 fishing license for a period of three consecutive days, twenty-two
76 dollars; (20) nonresident marine waters fishing license, fifteen dollars;
77 (21) nonresident marine waters fishing license for a period of three
78 consecutive days, eight dollars; (22) nonresident all-waters fishing
79 license, sixty-three dollars; (23) nonresident combination license to
80 firearms hunt and inland waters fish, one hundred ten dollars; (24)
81 nonresident combination license to fish in all waters and firearms hunt,
82 one hundred twenty dollars; (25) nonresident combination license to
83 fish in marine waters and firearms hunt, ninety-four dollars; and (26)
84 nonresident trapping license, two hundred fifty dollars. Persons sixty-

85 five years of age and over who have been residents of this state for not
86 less than one year and who meet the requirements of subsection (b) of
87 section 26-31 may be issued an annual license to firearms hunt or to
88 fish or combination license to fish and firearms hunt or a license to trap
89 without fee. The issuing agency shall indicate on a combination license
90 the specific purpose for which such license is issued. The town clerk
91 shall retain a recording fee of one dollar for each license issued by such
92 clerk.

93 (b) Any nonresident residing in one of the New England states or
94 the state of New York may procure a license to hunt or to fish or to
95 hunt and fish for the same fee or fees as a resident of this state if such
96 nonresident is a resident of a state the laws of which allow the same
97 privilege to residents of this state.

98 (c) The fee for a group fishing license, as described in subsection (h)
99 of section 26-30, shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars.

100 (d) (1) The fee charged for any firearms hunting, archery hunting,
101 trapping or sport fishing license that is issued to any Connecticut
102 resident who is sixteen or seventeen years of age shall be equal to fifty
103 per cent of the fee provided for such license in subsection (a) of this
104 section, rounded to the next highest dollar.

105 (2) The fee charged pursuant to section 26-27b, 26-48a, as amended
106 by this act, 26-86a or 26-86c for any firearms hunting, archery hunting,
107 trapping or sport fishing permit, tag or stamp that is issued to any
108 Connecticut resident who is [sixteen or seventeen] less than eighteen
109 years of age shall be equal to fifty per cent of the fee provided for such
110 permit, tag or stamp in said sections, rounded to the next highest
111 dollar.

112 (e) In addition to the calendar day designated pursuant to
113 subsection (f) of section 26-27, the Commissioner of Energy and
114 Environmental Protection may designate two additional days in each
115 calendar year on which a one-day license for sport fishing may be
116 issued free of charge. The commissioner may make such one-day

117 license available to all members of the public or to all members of an
118 age group designated by said commissioner.

119 (f) From time to time and for the purpose of increasing
120 participation, the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
121 Protection with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Office of Policy
122 and Management, may reduce, but not completely waive, the fee or
123 cost for any license, permit, tag or stamp, or combination thereof, as
124 provided for in this section, section 26-27b, 26-48a, as amended by this
125 act, 26-86a or 26-86c. Any such reduction shall: (1) Be for a portion of a
126 calendar year, (2) remain in effect only during the calendar year in
127 which such reduction is made, and (3) be made only if such reduction
128 is provided to all members of the public, to all members of a certain
129 age group, or to individuals who, in such calendar year, successfully
130 complete a course of instruction in fishing techniques, as provided for
131 in section 26-31a or a conservation education course of instruction, as
132 provided for in subsection (a) of section 26-31.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	26-48a
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2016</i>	26-28